

## Check this out:

*This month's focus is  
Online Learning Communities  
(OLCs).*

Essentially and OLC is a cloud-based learning environment that blends traditional teaching and learning with technology in order to create collaborative communities. These communities in turn have the ability to turn learning into a shared experience, capitalizing on the unique strengths and expertise of the individuals that make up the community.

With a little up front planning, there are plenty of ways you can incorporate technology into your classes right now.

Click [here](#) to see some of the many examples found on the RivertonTech wiki site. The list is continually growing, so make sure you stop by often.



Use the QR  
reader on your  
smartphone to  
see what the  
code does!

## Technology at Work

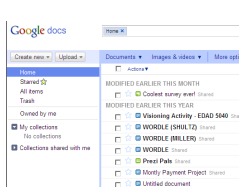
### Our Favorite OLC Tools!

Prezi.



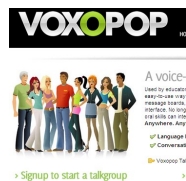
Think PowerPoint without the slides, this presentation tool has the ability for multiple students to work together simultaneously.

Google.doc



Students can invite others to help create, edit, and revise documents collaboratively.

Voxopop



Similar to a message board, except students use their voice rather than typing to ask questions, share ideas, or just work to improve oral skills.

SchoolTown

Everything a teacher needs to create their own OLC.



## New Look

You may have noticed we've moved things around on the RivertonTech wiki site. The reason: we simply have too many good resources to keep on one page! The new layout will allow you to more easily find what you're looking for.

### What the research says about OLCs:

This is a fairly new field of study in terms of educational research. While much more data is currently being gathered, there are certain trends becoming quite clear:

- The OLC's strength lies in the ability to promote communication and collaboration.
- OLCs are most effective when purposefully planned, implemented, and monitored by teachers.
- The nature of an OLC is dynamic, with new tools and ways of implementing becoming available all the time.

